

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of	)	<b>MAIL STOP AMENDMENT</b>
Shigeyuki Akimoto et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 2624
Application No.: 10/556,916	)	Examiner: Vanchy Jr., Michael J.
Filed: November 15, 2005	)	Confirmation No.: 1621
For: OUTER SURFACE-INSPECTING	)	
METHOD, MASTER PATTERNS	)	
USED THEREFOR, AND OUTER	)	
SURFACE-INSPECTING	)	
APPARATUS EQUIPPED WITH	)	
SUCH A MASTER PATTERN	)	

**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 30, 2009, please amend the  
above-identified patent application as follows: